

Communication from Public

Name: Jonah Henry

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Comments for Public Posting: My name is Jonah Henry and I am a resident of Jefferson Park in CD10. I am also a volunteer organizer with Sunrise Movement Los Angeles, a youth-led organization that is fighting to stop the climate crisis and develop a more equitable economy. The Los Angeles Fire Department (LAFD) already has the existing legal authority to require that oil operators plug idle wells, but LAFD is choosing to allow these wells to stay unplugged. This lack of enforcement by LAFD leaves fenceline communities breathing in the methane, benzene, and other hazardous chemicals that rise up through the unplugged wells into the air, and it leaves California financially liable for the future costs of plugging wells that the operators will inevitably abandon. Idle oil wells are one of the most urgent infrastructure issues in our City, and LAFD's inaction is unacceptable. I urge the Committee to go beyond the recommendations in the City Attorney's report and instead require that LAFD must use its existing authority to plug these idle wells. Thank you for considering my comment.